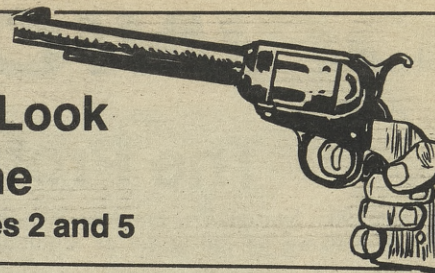


INSIDE
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INSIDE
INSIDE
INSIDE
INSIDE

Local Methodist Church
Looks At Homophobia
See Page 8

Anti-Gay Violence: A Look
At What's Being Done
See Pages 2 and 5



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Deadline is January 18, 1984 for issue of January 25, 1984.

Volume 2, Number 17

Published Alternate Wednesdays for the Women and Men of the Gay and Lesbian Community

January 11, 1984



Star Photo by Tim Warford

Locals Protest Dan White Release

Members of Sacramento's gay and lesbian community held a silent vigil in memory of slain San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone on the steps of the State Capitol Jan. 6. The impromptu demonstration was held to protest the release of convicted killer Dan White from prison earlier that day. White served five years for the double assassination. Marchers carried caricatures of Milk and packages of Twinkies to protest White's insanity defense. White was released earlier in the day from a Los Angeles facility. Los Angeles politicians and citizens were outraged by his release in their city and have asked the Department of Corrections to move him elsewhere for his year's probation.

Capitol Symposium For The Gay And Lesbian Press Will Convene Jan. 20-22, Sponsored By Agnos, Roberti

A Capitol Symposium for the Gay Press on January 20-22 has been announced by Assemblyman Art Agnos and Senator David Roberti, in conjunction with the Gay Press Association.

The three-day symposium will begin with a reception on the evening of Friday, Jan. 20.

The symposium proper is scheduled for 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21, in Room 4202 of the State Capitol. That evening, the Sacramento-area gay press and local lesbian/gay organizations will sponsor a potluck dinner for the visiting lesbian/gay press.

Sunday, Jan. 22, has been left free for Capitol tours, discussion, local activities, or sightseeing. A separate workshop on gay and lesbian electronic media may also be held.

On Monday, members of the gay and lesbian press may arrange to sit in on floor sessions, committee hearings, and other Capitol activities.

The sponsoring legislators are presenting the symposium free to participating members of the lesbian and gay press. They seek participants' "ideas and insights on the workings of the gay press and how it can be more effective in covering political news in California."

In a letter announcing the symposium,

Agnos and Roberti wrote, "Throughout our years of involvement in a variety of gay and lesbian issues, we have watched the gay press become one of the most vital components of today's gay and lesbian community. The gay press is constantly evolving to meet the needs of this active and diverse group. The increase in gay political awareness and influence is in large part a result of an expanding and more professional gay and lesbian press."

The letter went on, "This event will give representatives of the gay and lesbian press a rare opportunity to expand their working knowledge of the political process in California and how to cover it. It will also put members of the gay and lesbian press in touch with valuable contacts in the Capitol, including local gay and lesbian activists, legislative staff, Capitol reporters and lobbyists."

"In addition, it will be a special opportunity for those in the Capitol to learn more about the gay press and its role in the gay and lesbian community."

Persons interested in the symposium may contact Cleve Jones at (415) 557-2253 or Richard LaVoie at (213) 464-1178, or Agnos' or Roberti's Capitol offices. ★

NGRA Wants Military Exclusion Of Gays/Lesbians Investigated

National Gay Rights Advocates, the San Francisco-based public-interest law firm, has called for an investigation of what it costs the government to exclude homosexuals from the military. The armed forces discharge about 1,800 lesbians and gay men each year based solely on their sexual orientation.

A recent Rand Corporation study indicates that the military spends about \$100,000 per soldier through basic training.

Jean O'Leary, NGRA Executive Director, said: "Simple arithmetic shows that millions of dollars are being spent each year to bar gays from serving their country. We've submitted a number of questions for a Government Accounting Office (GAO) audit which will reveal just how much the public has to pay for this discrimination."

NGRA also has a suit pending against the Navy challenging the constitutionality of their exclusionary regulations. A decision in that case is expected in the next few months.

NGRA has also just published a new brochure directed toward lesbians and gay men who need a security clearance. The federal government's policy on granting clearances is one which has caused apprehension for many gays.

According to Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, "The government often refuses to grant a clearance because of a supposed vulnerability to blackmail. Yet they cannot point to a single case where a lesbian or gay man has been blackmailed into giving up secret government documents."

The result of not getting a security clearance is usually losing your job.

Jean O'Leary, NGRA Executive Director, said, "This brochure is just a part of our employment discrimination program. We are considering several lawsuits involving people whose job is at risk because they can't get a security clearance."

NGRA has also requested the Department of Justice to allow gay people a role in formulating a new security clearance policy.

The brochure is in a question/answer format and intended for the lay person. It was made possible by a grant from the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Scientists and the volunteer services of Ryan J. Nakagawa.

The brochure is free to NGRA members and \$1.00 to the public. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request to: NGRA, 540 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. ★



Star Photo by Tim Warford

Fazio Meets With Community Groups

Congressional Representative Vic Fazio (left) met with more than 70 members of the lesbian and gay community Jan. 9 in a South Land Park home. Fazio told the group he was happy to be one of the 75 sponsors of the national Gay Rights Bill. He suggested that discrimination against gay men and lesbians by the federal government in areas of security clearances and military service would be most easily ended through executive orders by the president. Fazio urged gay men and lesbians to work for presidential candidates who support their beliefs. Ronn Farland (right) is president of the River City Democratic Club, which sponsored the event with the River City Business Association, Our River City Family, Yolo County NOW, and other local organizations.

OPINION

The Problem Of Anti-Gay Violence

- July, 1983. Seattle, Washington: Two gay men walking on the street at night are jumped by a gang of teenagers wielding baseball bats and crowbars and screaming "diseased faggots!" They are repeatedly clubbed and kicked and then raped with crowbars.
- May, 1983. Southern California: Two openly lesbian Native American women are repeatedly threatened and assaulted by several local men. Their assailants also vandalize their home and set it on fire. Although the women can identify the perpetrators, the police are unwilling to make an arrest. Fearful for their lives, they to another city.
- September, 1982. Atlanta, Georgia: The gay Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) is set on fire, causing at least \$75,000 in damages. MCC reports that eighteen of its churches have been torched in the last fifteen years. MCC Atlanta was also broken into and vandalized four times in 1982.
- September, 1982. New York, New York: The Blue's Bar is raided by the police. They brutalize several black patrons, make racist and homophobic slurs and destroy thousands of dollars worth of property.

* * *

The incidents cited above are only a few of hundreds of reported to the National Gay Task Force each year. As in the vast majority of cases the victims were singled out for one reason only: they are lesbian or gay.

Violence against lesbian and gay people is nothing new. Harassment and attacks against members of the gay and lesbian community are a longstanding aspect of society's hatred of homosexuals. In recent years, however, the number of reported incidents has increased at an alarming rate. They gay media now regularly reports homophobic harassment, beatings, arson, murder, police brutality, rape and vandalism.

Across the country, local gay organizations have responded to outbreaks of violence in their communities by documenting incidents and assisting victims.

In New York City, the Gay/Lesbian Anti-Violence Project has helped more than 1,500 victims of homophobic attacks since its founding in 1980, and estimates that this figure represents only 20 percent of the total number of those singled out for anti-gay attacks in the New York metropolitan area.

In 1981 alone, San Francisco's Community United Against Violence (CUAV) received

nearly 600 reports of homophobic violence; this figure is also estimated to represent only 20 percent of all incidents that year.

In addition to the physical injury, fear and trauma experienced by all victims of violence, gay victims face additional problems. Like rape victims, they are often "blamed" for incidents they did not invite. Often they are told they "deserved" to be attacked because they held hands in public, because of the way they were dressed, or simply for being visible as an openly gay person.

It is not surprising, therefore, that many victims feel guilty and responsible for attacks against them. In addition, some find talking about or even thinking about an incident so painful that they never mention it even to friends or lovers.

Among the factors that promote violence are notions that gay people are "sissies" and "pansies" who will not fight back or report assaults to the police. In fact, gay people frequently do not report attacks against them because they expect a hostile or at best indifferent response from the police.

Additionally, because gay civil rights are not guaranteed, the lesbian or gay victim fears losing a job or home if s/he "comes out" to the police or in a courtroom. Many also fear rejection from friends and family, and retaliation from the criminal.

Those who do report incidents are often victimized again—this time by the criminal justice system. Some receive shoddy and even brutal treatment from the police. Others report that district attorneys failed to prosecute their assailants, defense attorneys asked them intrusive or irrelevant questions about their sex lives, and judges did little more than slap the wrists of convicted offenders.

In response to the rising tide of violence, NGTF initiated its Violence Project in 1982. The Violence Project has two primary objectives: (1) to raise public awareness about the nature and extent of homophobic violence and (2) to improve or help initiate services for gay and lesbian victims of violence.

One of the ways NGTF collects data on violence and helps victims is through its toll-free Crisisline. In addition to taking reports from victims, Crisisline staffers provide counseling and referrals to local support services.

The Crisisline Directory currently lists more than 1,500 lesbian/gay sensitive support services for victims, including

hotlines, switchboards, rape crisis centers, shelters, legal services, and other victim service agencies. It is NGTF's goal to provide every caller with at least one name and phone number of an agency that can help.

The toll-free Crisisline number is (800) 221-7044. It is open from noon to 6 p.m. Pacific Time.

In addition to documenting incidents on the Crisisline, NGTF is collecting data by conducting violence surveys around the country, compiling incident reports from the gay and lesbian press, and from more than a dozen local gay anti-violence projects—many of which use NGTF standardized violence report forms.

With the data it collects, NGTF is working to educate public officials, the criminal justice system, victim service agencies, the media and the general public about the scope and nature of anti-gay violence, what to do about it and how to help victims.

As a member of the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA), NGTF is working to sensitize victim service agencies to the issue of anti-gay violence and how to respond to the needs of lesbian and gay victims. NGTF is also reaching out to groups such as the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) and the National Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NCASA) to ensure that the needs of lesbian victims are met and that their cases are documented.

In addition to working with existing victim service agencies, NGTF is helping to facilitate the establishment of new local organizations to combat anti-gay assaults and help survivors. NGTF shares the accumulated expertise of local violence projects with new groups by providing them with existing information on how gay and lesbian people can protect themselves, how to guide victims through the criminal justice system, and how to counsel gay and lesbian victims of violence.★

God Gets Anita?

Editor:

Extremely bad weather has lately damaged the Florida citrus crop. This undoubtedly is God's sign of displeasure for the doings of Anita Bryant.

GLENN RICE

\$1 Million 1984 Goal For Human Rights Campaign Fund

The Human Rights Campaign Fund, a national pro-gay civil rights political action committee, wound up its 1983 fundraising with a series of events in Key West during the last week of December.

These events marked the end of the fourth year of operations for the Campaign Fund. The Fund's sights are set toward a minimum one million dollar war chest for the 1984 elections. During the 1981-1982 election cycle, over \$609,000 was raised.

1983 activities were highlighted by the annual New York City Dinner at the Waldorf. Rev. Jesse Jackson was the keynote speaker at the September event, which netted over \$30,000 for the political action committee.

Vic Basile, Executive Director of the Campaign Fund, in announcing the minimum one million dollar goal for 1984, also announced the appointment of Sheila Kuehl and Jack Newby as the new Co-Chairs for the Los Angeles City Committee.

The drive to reach the goal begins in Los Angeles with a \$1000 per plate dinner on January 17. A San Francisco reception and dinner party follows four days later. Major events are also planned in Dallas and Houston during the early part of 1984.★

EMPAC Will Offer Guided British Theatre Tour In May

A tour of British theatres, co-sponsored by American Express, the Sacramento Bee, and the Eleanor McClatchy Performing Arts Center, is scheduled to leave San Francisco in late May, via British Airlines.

Included in the theatre tour package are 12 nights in first class hotels, two performances of current hit plays in London and a Shakespeare production at Stratford.

Other highlights of the trip include: a visit to Shakespeare's birthplace, Ann Hathaway's Cottage, Westminster Abbey, Windsor Castle, Stonehenge, the medieval city of Bath, and a side-trip into the Scottish Highlands.

A portion of the London Theatre Tour fare will benefit the Eleanor McClatchy Performing Arts Center, a non-profit California corporation.

EMPAC's Miriam Gray-Duffy, local actress and director will lead the two week tour.

For more details, call Twila Reid at the American Express Office, 441-1780.★

AS I SEE IT But I Didn't Reply

By RICK RUMAN

I received a Christmas card, late as usual, from someone I once loved intensely, if briefly, which sent me back to the moment we had met and made small talk.

"What," he had asked me, "do you write?"

Thinking to be funny, I said, "Bad checks and worse poetry."

As I read his report of his activities in the past year, I traipsed for a few moments through the nostalgic haze of our relationship to another, particularly awful, Christmas, when I wrote on the tag of a gift I had gotten him:

"I wanted to give you something for Christmas

I thought about giving you all my love

But I could tell that wasn't exactly what you wanted

Still, I think it would have kept you warmer

Than this coat I got instead."

And I thought of another moment (I knew then the romance was over) when he likened my heart to a marshmallow held too long in the flame. "Few," he said, "are going to try to break through that blackened bitter exterior just to get to the gooey too-sweet center."

His Christmas card, sent from some snowdrift of a town in Wisconsin, is as usual, cheerful. In the past I have responded equally cheerfully.

Now, his overly literate and theatrical writing (and speech), which I once found both charming and confounding, seem silly. I remember that he always spoke to me—no, *addressed* me—as if I were an impressionable class in Freshman English; that, even when I was pressed tightly against him, I felt I was being held at arm's length.

Those memories, which once tormented me, suddenly seemed amusing—it was as if I had seen them in some lugubrious melodrama. I decided to save this card, as I had saved all the others.

But I didn't reply.★

THE SACRAMENTO STAR

James K. Graham, Editor

Tim Warford, Managing Editor

Gene Hoisington, Design Director

CONTRIBUTORS

Ronnie Armenta

Joyce Bright

Joan Derrick

Cheryl Imura

Jason Lindo

Robi McGavin

Rick Ruman

Harvey Thompson, M.D.

Sandy Wilde

Joe Balestreri

Carol Brown

Philip Hoskins

Jill Kelly

A. Xavier Magallan

Sandy Pomerantz, M.D.

Kathy Tavares

Rick Van Dyke

Gerry Wortman

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GRNL Works With Congress To Reform Immigration Law

Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) has announced that Congressional Hearings on immigration reform are to be held in early 1984. GRNL representatives have been working closely with Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) to insure that the hearings will take place.

Just before Congress recessed its 1983 session in November, Rep. Frank helped to set the agenda for next year's promised hearings by introducing a bill, H.R. 4509, which completely rewrites the law dealing with standards for exclusion and deportation of foreigners.

Of most immediate interest to the gay community is Frank's revision of the "health related grounds" for exclusion. Under the 1952 law, immigration authorities are directed to bar any alien who is "afflicted with a psychopathic personality, sexual deviation, or mental defect"—language which has been interpreted to keep out foreign lesbians and gay men.

In contrast, H.R. 4509 would restrict medical exclusions to, first, "any alien who suffers from any mental illness likely to result in the performance of acts which would endanger public safety."

Rep. Frank, commenting on his bill, stated, "This language is intended, among other things, to repeal the prohibition on admitting foreign homosexuals."

The hearings will fulfill a public promise made last May by Rep. Romano Mazzoli (D-KY), chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, to Rep. Frank, a subcommittee member.

Frank had raised the issue of overhauling the exclusion categories during the subcommittee's deliberations on the Immigration Reform and Control Act, better known as the Simpson-Mazzoli bill. Admitting that the current system of excluded categories embedded in the 1952 Immigration and Nationality Act is indeed "outdated," Mazzoli pledged to hold hearings on modernizing that section of the law once Congressional action on the Simpson-Mazzoli bill was completed.

The Senate passed the Simpson-Mazzoli bill last May, and the House of Representatives is expected to take it up in the spring.

A lively debate on the effort to repeal the anti-gay exclusion is generally expected. The outcome may hinge in large part on the attitude of House Judiciary Chair Peter Rodino (D-NJ), who so far has been silent on the issue.

"Gay Rights National Lobby will continue working closely with Rep. Frank and other Congressional friends to help organize favorable testimony for repeal of the anti-gay exclusion during the upcoming hearings and to mobilize for full-scale lobbying effort," stated GRNL Deputy Director, Jerry Weller.

In addition to Rep. Frank, Rep. Julian Dixon (D-CA) has long been a leader in the area of immigration reform.

Rep. Dixon has several times introduced bills directed at repealing the exclusion of foreign gays and has actively sought co-sponsors to indicate growing Congressional interest in resolving the problem. Dixon also sponsored the July 1982 special Congressional briefing that GRNL helped to organize, when a number of Representatives listened attentively to a parade of witnesses explaining the injustice of the present statutory exclusion of gay aliens. Dixon's bills will also be considered at the hearings.

Craig Howell, coordinator of GRNL's Immigration Task Force, noted that the most controversial aspect of H.R. 4509 may not be the sections dealing with gays, but probably will be the section severely restricting the grounds for barring aliens for political reasons. The Administration has frequently invoked the broad language of the 1952 law to keep out foreign intellectuals and political leaders it frowns upon.

H.R. 4509 would permit exclusion on "security grounds" only if an alien could be expected to indulge in espionage or sabotage, in acts "which endanger public safety or national security," or in efforts to "overthrow the Government of the United States by force, violence, or other unconstitutional means." Active members of terrorist organizations could not be admitted as immigrants, but might be allowed to enter for a temporary visit as non-immigrants.

The Administration is expected to aggressively oppose any attempt at liberalization of the current language which would keep it from using the discretionary power to exclude foreigners as a weapon in political and diplomatic maneuverings. ★

Workshop On Safe Sex In The Age Of AIDS January 24

The Sacramento chapter of the AIDS/KS Foundation will conduct a free workshop on Tuesday, January 24, 1984, for men who want to remain sexually active but are concerned about contracting AIDS.

A graphic slide show on risk reduction techniques will be featured, followed by a presentation and small group discussion.

Topics to be covered include anxiety reactions, lifestyle changes and practical suggestions about how to implement the techniques discussed.

Pre-registration is required. Contact Jackson Peyton at the AIDS/KS Foundation, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for details about time and place. ★



Star Photo by James Graham

Only 29 Blood Sisters

A disappointing total of 29 people donated blood during the Blood Sisters blood drive at the YWCA on Dec. 29. The drive, co-sponsored by the Sacramento AIDS Foundation and the Sacramento Blood Bank, had been expected to attract 100 donors. The lack of participation was attributed to the holiday season and the fact that the drive was hurriedly planned and staged. Amid criticism that the use of the donated blood was not clearly defined, organizers of the Blood Sisters effort told The Star that they hoped to put on another blood drive later in the spring.

Feminist Legal Services Opens Jan. 30: Workshops, Referrals

The newly-formed Feminist Legal Services will officially open its doors on January 30, 1984.

FLS was founded through the joint efforts of members of the Sacramento Chapter of the National Organization for Women and Women Lawyers of Sacramento. FLS is a response to the overwhelming need for legal assistance, and financial access to such assistance, among low-income persons, two-thirds of whom are women.

FLS has a three-pronged approach to its tasks.

FLS will conduct workshops for the community (and participating attorneys) on various legal issues critical to women, such as divorce law, support collection, and employment discrimination.

Another important aspect of the new organization is the development of a referral list of competent feminist attorneys. Participating attorneys will donate a specified number of *pro bono* hours before being placed upon the list.

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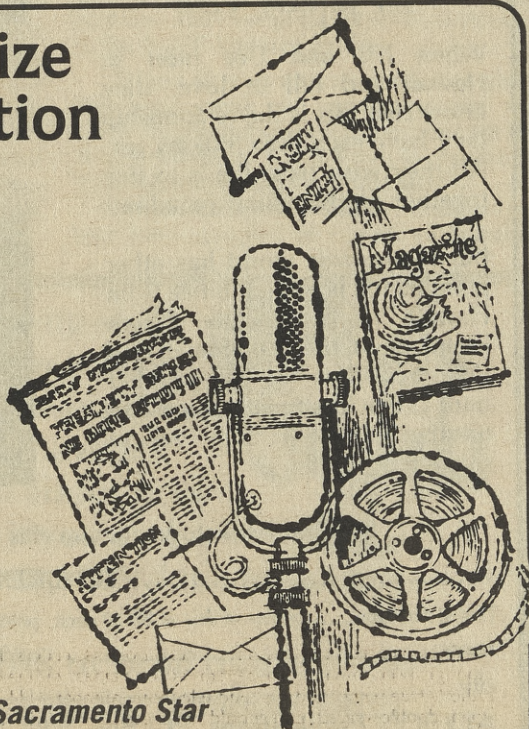
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ENTERTAINMENT

Media Fund For Human Rights

Campaign Begun For More Media Awareness

The Media Fund for Human Rights has announced a major, nationwide campaign to make gay people more critical of the media.

The campaign was launched with an

Mystery Thriller 'Deathtrap' Opens At EMPAC Jan. 19

"Deathtrap," the longest running mystery play on Broadway, will be the next production of the Eleanor McClatchy Performing Arts Center, opening a four weekend run on Thursday, January 19.

EMPAC Artistic Director Dennis Bigelow chose Ira Levin's masterful comedy-suspense thriller for his Sacramento directorial debut.

"Deathtrap" will play Thursdays through Sundays, January 19 through February 12, with performances at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.

The leading character of "Deathtrap" is a guileful craftsman of stage thrillers. His successes in the distant past, he now supports himself primarily on his wife's income and occasional summer seminars. His chic suburban Connecticut home is adorned with terrifying murder weapons, mementos of the mystery writer's past productions. He is clearly not averse to using any one of them to get himself another hit.

One of his students sends him a copy of a murder mystery. The writer offers the young man the benefit of his experience as collaborator on this script, never admitting that it is perfect as is. When refused, he proposes to do away with the student and present the play as his own.

Out of this seemingly straightforward announcement of intended murder comes a most intricate and surprising twist of plot that propels the events into further dark deeds of mayhem, obliterating a good percentage of the cast by fiendish means, and keeping the audiences on the edge of their seats.

Bigelow will direct a cast of local talent including Michael Hunter (Sidney Bruhl) as the disdainful writer and Skip Greer (Clifford Anderson) as the talented student. Jan Akers (Myra Bruhl) will be seen as the overwrought wife and Lill Estlander Wilder (Helga Ten Dorp) as the Dutch lady loaded with ESP. Jim Roberts (Porter Milgrim) will play the role of the proper lawyer with a few quirks of his own.

Audiences are earnestly begged not to reveal the plot of "Deathtrap," so that others will be able to enjoy its many surprises.

Tickets are \$7.50 general admission for evening performances and \$6.50 for matinees. Student/Senior discounts available. A low cost preview—\$4 per ticket—is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17 at 8 p.m. Reservations are recommended, and may be made by calling the EMPAC Box Office at 44-EMPAC (443-6722).★

exhibit during the November convention of the National Association of Business Councils in Los Angeles. Convention-goers were invited to view a video tape of the media coverage of many gay issues and to respond to a questionnaire. The tape is available for viewing by gay groups around the country.

The Media Fund for Human Rights is a tax-exempt charitable and educational organization, founded by the Gay Press Association, the international association of gay media professionals.

"Local groups have been doing incredibly successful consciousness-raising among media officials in their communities," according to Mike Rutherford, Executive Director of the Media Fund. "Now, the time has come for us to be sending our version of breaking news stories directly into the electronic news systems of the country—and do it on a national level."

It's a task, he says, which will take full-time professionals, lots of money, and cooperation among gay groups nationwide.

"If we could just match the technical facilities of the Moral Majority, we could begin to counter some of the 'media fag-bashing' which is going on," said Morgan

'Madame Louise & The Miracle Baby' Plays Women's Building

Batya Podos will perform her new play "Madam Louise & the Miracle Baby"—a tale of the miraculous—on Friday, January 27, at 7:30 p.m., at the First Sacramento Women's Building, 2224 J Street, Sacramento.

Told and acted in the tradition of storytelling, the tale unfolds on the boardwalk of an unnamed seaside town where Madam Louise is the resident fortune teller. Usually true clairvoyance eludes her and she tells people what they want to hear.

But when a young woman, Sydney Marion, comes to have her fortune told, Madam Louise accurately predicts her pregnancy. From that moment on, Sydney Marion's life is inexorably changed because this is no ordinary pregnancy. As Madam Louise says, "There hasn't been another one like it for 2,000 years."

As the audience travels through the following months with Sydney, it witnesses her transformation as she begins to open her heart to Madam Louise and the magical. There are visions and miracles and a whole host of characters. Aphrodite the Goddess of the Sea presides over the events that lead up to the birth of the miraculous baby.

Pinney, Chief Executive Officer for the project.

The heart of the operation of the Media Fund is the computerized electronic network, established more than a year ago by the Gay Press Association and now operated by the Media Fund.

The system is now accessible to any group in the country, using any of the popular home computers connected over regular telephone lines to the "host" computer in New York. Any group can leave messages for any other group or disseminate press releases to all groups. Members of special subgroups, such as gay lawyers or gay journalists, will communicate within their special sections of the system.

"All of this will result in a better and more rapidly informed gay community, and everyone will be in touch with the Media Fund as we send news and analysis directly into the electronic news systems of the country," according to Pinney.

The Media Fund can be contacted through its national office in Washington, D.C. at 1110 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, 20005. The phone number is (202) 387-2430.★

EMPAC's Cabaret Series Offers Four Plays, Special Price

Subscriptions are now being offered for the all-new, innovative Cabaret Theatre season at the Eleanor McClatchy Performing Arts Center (EMPAC). Four eclectic productions (one musical, one comedy, one drama, and one world premiere,) all new to Sacramento audiences, will be included in the Cabaret season.

Subscriptions are available through January 30 for:

• "K2," Patrick Meyer's thrilling and challenging play that uses mountain climbing as a metaphor to explore deeper themes. Opening February 3.

• "A Coupla White Chicks Sitting Around Talking," John Ford Noonan's delightful comedy of the bonding between two extremely different contemporary women, starring Miriam Gray-Duffy and Roberta Blagg. Opening February 23.

• "Transit of Venus," a world premiere production, written by Stuart Duckworth, of the Oregon Shakespearean Festival in Ashland. This new script focuses on Harry Crosby, the American expatriate—his life, his loves, his obsessions, his carelessness, set against the avant garde art experience of the 1920s. World Premiere March 23.

• "March of the Falsettos," an exhilarating, spicy new musical of urban life and very contemporary relationships, by William Finn. Opening April 27.

Cabaret productions are scheduled for Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. for four weekends.

Subscriptions to this exciting new season are available through January 30 for \$23, a savings of \$3 over the single ticket price of \$6.50.

To take advantage of this offer, please call the EMPAC Box Office at 44-EMPAC to receive a copy of the Cabaret subscription brochure.★

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IRIS

by Janine Veto

When Iris and Dee meet in Hawaii and fall in love, they know that this is the relationship they have each been looking for. All they wish from life is to live together on this island paradise.

But the outside world has other plans as Iris is forced to flee from Hawaii to a desolate Greek island. Soon the two women find that their love for one another must prove its strength against an unexpected foe if they are to survive.



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FEATURE

Scheduled For February 15-17

Task Force On Family Violence To Hold Hearings In Sacramento

The Attorney General's Task Force on Family Violence, a federal body seeking ways to improve services at all levels of government to victims of family violence, will hold hearings in Sacramento February 15 through 17.

The National Gay Task Force Violence Project urges individuals and organizations in the lesbian/gay community to participate in the evidence-gathering process of the Attorney General's Task Force on Family Violence. (See related story in this issue.)

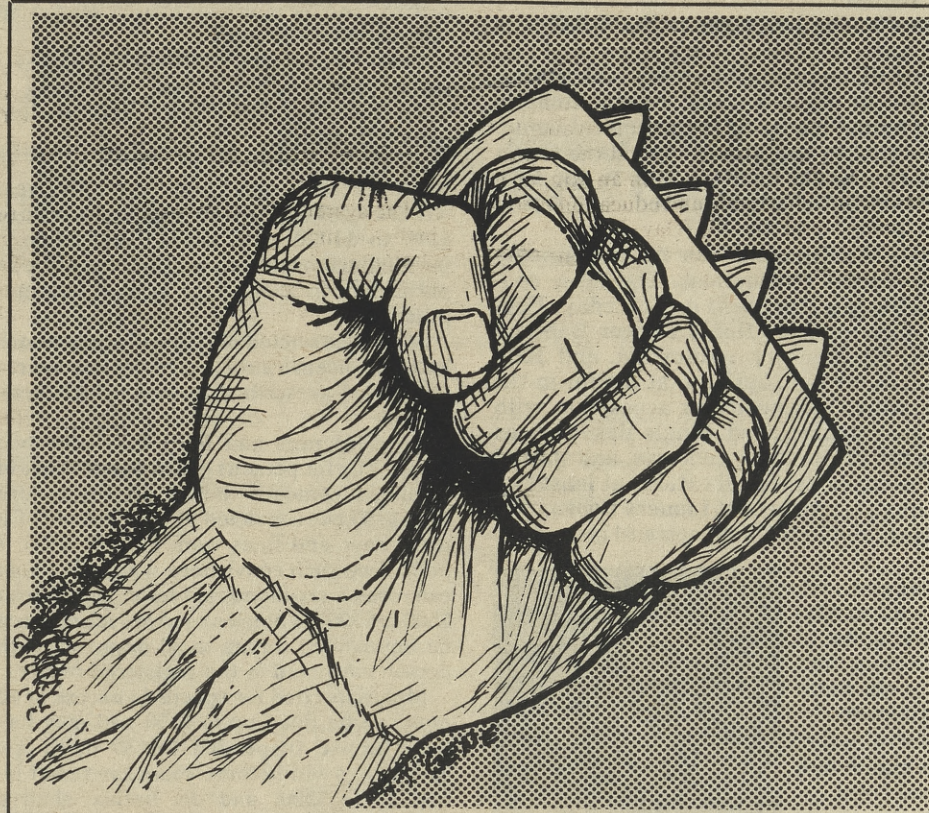
Announcing formation of the Task Force in September, 1983, Attorney General William French Smith said, "The incalculable costs of these crimes in physical and emotional suffering, ruined lives and future crimes are intolerable in our civilized society."

Though long viewed as a matter that should not be handled within the legal system, violence within the family seemed sufficiently serious to the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime that it called earlier this year for creation of a task force to study the problem, Smith said.

"Particular consideration will be given to abuse and molestation of children, spouse abuse and mistreatment of the elderly," Smith said.

Smith named Chief William Hart of the Detroit Police Department to head the task force.

Staff support will be provided by the Justice Department's Office of Justice Assistance, Research and Statistics. Assis-



tant Attorney General Lois H. Herrington, head of that agency, said the task force will hold hearings in several cities before submitting a report with recommendations to the Attorney General.

The task force is to complete its work within six months, Herrington said.

Besides Chief Hart, members of the task force are:

- John Ashcroft, Attorney General of Mis-

souri, who is in charge of his state's crime-prevention program and is an advocate of strengthening Missouri's criminal laws and procedures, especially as related to family violence.

- Ann Burgess, Van Ameringen Professor of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania, and a frequent instructor at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

- Newman Flanagan, District Attorney of Suffolk County, Massachusetts (Boston area), and president of the National District Attorneys Association. He has heightened the sensitivity of the justice system to the impact court procedures have on children and families.

- Ursula Meese, a delegate to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and a former probation officer for Alameda County, California. She also managed a suicide-crisis intervention program in Sacramento.

- Catherine Milton of Palo Alto, California, author of publications on law enforcement and victim issues. She is currently an assistant to the president of Stanford University and is organizing a victims' education initiative for the National Judicial College. She was formerly Assistant Director of the Police Foundation.

- Clyde Narramore, a licensed psychologist and family and marriage counselor in Los Angeles. Dr. Narramore worked with the Los Angeles County School District for 13 years, dealing with youth and family problems.

- Ruben Ortega, Chief of Police in Phoenix, Arizona. He has made significant contributions in the area of police-community relations and has been active in guiding state legislation on law enforcement and domestic violence.

- Frances Seward of Jamaica, New York, Safety Director of the Jamaica Services Program for Older Adults. A trained rehabilitation counselor, she has extensive experience with family problems stemming from abuse of drugs or alcohol. She is a member of the board of the National Organization for Victims Assistance.

Because of the complexities of family violence and the significant ways in which its causes and its solutions seem to differ from other criminal behavior, the Attorney General feels that the Federal Government must take a leading role in this area. The Task Force will attempt to place the problem of family violence in its proper perspective in the Criminal Justice System.★

Task Force Needs To Hear Of Family Violence Directed At Lesbians And Gays, NGTF Says

The National Gay Task Force is alerting the lesbian/gay community to the importance of the U.S. Attorney General's special task force to examine the problem of violence within the family. Hearings have already been held in New York and Detroit, and are scheduled to take place in Sacramento on Feb. 15-17.

"If you or your organization is in any way involved with gay and lesbian victims of domestic violence, NGTF urges you to share your perspectives with the Attorney General's Task Force," said Kevin Berrill, director of the NGTF Violence Project.

"When most of us talk about violence against gay and lesbian people, we refer to street attacks by strangers. However, anti-gay/lesbian violence also happens in the home," Berrill continued. Speaking on behalf of the Institute for the Protection of Lesbian and Gay Youth (IPLGY) and NGTF, IPLGY Executive Director Dr. Barbara Fox addressed this problem in testimony at a recent Task Force hearing in New York City.

She referred to an IPLGY study in which 8% of gay male youths and 11% of lesbian youths "had need for emergency housing because of family reactions to their sexual orientation... The need for emergency housing was usually connected to reports of abuse."

Dr. Fox emphasized that research, education, case management and placement/shelters are needed to respond to the needs of gay and lesbian youths and adults who are battered in the home. (Copies of Dr. Fox's testimony are available from NGTF.)

In 1982, the National Gay Task Force initiated its nationwide Crisisline to document anti-gay/lesbian violence and to refer callers to local support services. Some of the most distraught calls to the Crisisline have come from gay and lesbian youth who have been verbally and physically abused by family members and other relatives. They have no resources, nowhere to turn, and are often totally dependent on the very people who victimize them.

NGTF asks organizations to share with the Attorney General's Task Force any information they have on the nature and extent of this problem, and to send copies of the testimony to the NGTF Violence Project.

"Unless all of us who are concerned about this issue speak out, our community will surely be ignored when it comes time for the Attorney General's Task Force to prepare its final recommendations," said Berrill.

First person accounts and any statistics you may have compiled on reports of domestic

violence would be especially useful, according to Berrill. If possible, please try to assess how well your organization, other social service agencies and the criminal justice system in your community are equipped to respond to the needs of gay and lesbian victims of domestic abuse (if at all). Testimony should emphasize how local, state and federal response can be improved.

All written testimony will be accepted and should be mailed to Marise Duff, Executive Director, Attorney General's Task Force on Family Violence, 633 Indiana Avenue, NW, Room 221, Washington, D.C. 20531 *no later than February 17*. Please send copies to NGTF.

All those who wish to present oral testimony at upcoming hearings should call the Task Force office in Washington, D.C. at (202) 272-6500 for information.★

The Star is planning a feature on couples for our Valentine's Day issue of February 8. We would like to hear from you if you have an interesting story to tell about how you met your lover or if you and your lover have been together for a long time — 10, 15, 20 years or more.

Give us a call at 443-STAR or send us a letter to P.O. Box 160300, Suite 156, Sacramento 95816, before February 1.



Violence: What You Can Do

- If you work with a victim service agency that is willing and able to help victims of anti-gay violence, please get in touch with us. We will list you in our Crisisline Referral Directory, provide you with information on lesbian/gay victimization, and keep you informed of our efforts. We also ask that you refer gay and lesbian people who seek your assistance to our Crisisline for purposes of documentation and/or additional services. Crisisline cards and posters are available free of charge.
- If you know about local hotlines, switchboards, legal services, rape crisis centers or any other agencies that might be able to help victims of anti-gay or lesbian violence, please tell us about them.
- If you want to start a project to document violence and assist victims, get in touch with us. We will provide you with standardized report forms, technical assistance and moral support. NGTF will also refer you to other local violence projects and publicize your successful work.
- If you see accounts of anti-gay incidents in the press, clip and send them to us. We will file reports from the articles we receive, so the more you send, the larger our data base will be.
- Crisisline posters and wallet-size cards are now available. We need you to help distribute them in bars, bookstores, community centers, schools, social clubs, churches, synagogues and wherever else gay and lesbian people come together.

NGTF VIOLENCE PROJECT
80 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1601
New York, New York 10011
(212) 741-5800

ITEMS

Mortuary Muggings

By RICK VAN DYKE

It's 1984, and I have bad news and good news. The bad news is **Big Brother** is watching. The good news is rumor has it he's gay.

Gay male revelers should use caution when walking past the **flaming pink mortuary** on 20th Street between J and K Streets late at night. Several recent assaults suggest that muggers attack their victims from hiding places near the funeral home. If you are the victim of an attack, here or elsewhere, report it to the **Rape Crisis Center**, 447-7273 (they have gay male counselors you can talk to), and to the **City Police**. The only way to improve police protection in the neighborhood is to report crimes.

Spectra 84, a concert series of women's music to raise money for the **Sacramento Women's Center**, has been announced by **Satin Jacket Productions**. The three concerts feature **Mary Watkins** and **Gayle Marie** with **Jan Martinelli** on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 8 p.m. in the McClatchy High School Auditorium, the **Robin Flower Band** on Saturday, March 10, at 8 p.m. in the McClatchy High School Auditorium, and **Judy Fjell/Nancy Vogl** and **Suzanne P. Shanbaum** on Saturday, April 14, at 8 p.m. in the Sacramento City College Auditorium. All concerts will be wheelchair accessible, with childcare available, and will be signed for the hearing impaired. Single ticket prices range from \$7-\$10 per concert, series tickets are \$18-\$27 for three concerts, and special Friends of the Series tickets are \$50 for the three concerts. Reservations at least two weeks in advance of the concerts are required. Buy your tickets at **Lioness Books**, 2224 J Street, or order them from P.O. Box 162848, Sacramento 95816. **Spectra 84** is co-sponsored by **Lioness Books**.

One of my faithful informants sent me this note recently: "It seems that porn star **Leo Ford** was at **Bojangles** on New Year's Eve. He took the opportunity to take off his clothes in the middle of the dance floor and jerk off. Charming, don't you think?" Well, it's not quite the word I would have used, but it will do, I suppose.

The Sacramento Star's workshop on news releases, publicity, and dealing with the media, for individuals and organizations in the lesbian/gay community, has been rescheduled for Saturday, January 28, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, in the community room at **Lioness Books**, 2224 J Street. For more information about the workshop, "How to Publicize Your Organization or Event," call 443-STAR. A fee of \$3 will cover the cost of materials and room rental.

The change in the date of The Star's media workshop was made to avoid a conflict with the **Capitol Symposium for the Gay and Lesbian Press** taking place on Saturday, January 21. The Symposium is being sponsored by **Assemblyman Art Agnos**, **Senator David Roberti**, and the **Gay Press Association**. Representatives of the lesbian and gay press from all over the state will gather in Sacramento for a day of meetings and workshops at the State Capitol, and will be the guests of the local gay press and other local organizations at a potluck dinner Saturday evening.

A show of works on paper in gouache and oil pastel by **Chris Kidd** opens January 30 at **Earhart's Cafe** and runs through February 24. Earhart's, at 1905 16th Street, is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.

The San Francisco Folk Music Center will present **An Evening with Pete Seeger** as a benefit for **Sing Out! Magazine**, the **San Francisco Folk Music Center**, and the **Woody Guthrie Foundation**, on Saturday, February 25, at 8 p.m. in the Berkeley Community Theater, 1900 Alston Way, Berkeley. Ticket prices are \$20 for patrons, \$10 and \$8 for general admission, and \$6 for children under 10, seniors, and disabled persons. All seats will be reserved and wheelchair access is available. Tickets are available from BASS outlets at the Record Factory and Liberty House, or directly from the San Francisco Folk Music Center, Pete Seeger Concert, 478 West Hamilton, Suite 318, Campbell, CA 95008.

The Rev. **Freda Smith**, her assistant **Larry Dunlap**, and a large contingent of church members from **River City Metropolitan Community Church** attended the Mass and meeting sponsored by **Dignity/Sacramento** at St. Francis Roman Catholic Church on Sunday, January 8. Freda was her usual dynamic self as she talked about the history, organization, and mission of MCC. She also told a great story about a gay Christian who was attending a revival meeting, wearing a button proclaiming "I am a Gay Christian." Seeing the button, a nearby woman kept going on and on how she couldn't stand to be in a place where there were gay Christians. When the gay Christian finally could take no more from this person, he leaned forward, tapped the woman on the shoulder, and said, "Why don't you go to hell? There aren't any gay Christians there!"

Ann Forfreedom has announced a **Susan B. Anthony and Friends Birthday Party** for Tuesday, February 14, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the First Sacramento Women's Building, 2224 J Street. Admission to the event, a benefit for **Goddess Rising**, a non-profit educational and spiritual organization, is \$3, and refreshments are free. Everyone is welcome, as are costumes. Though the actual date of Susan B's birthday is Feb. 15, Ann says, "We can celebrate her life, and our futures, on the 14th." For more information, call 451-9970.

If you're in San Francisco Thursday, Friday, or Saturday, January 12-14, you might want to catch a new show at the **Valencia Rose**, 766 Valencia Street. Singer, dancer, and actor **Rhodesa Jones**, with saxophonist and percussionist **Idris Acka-moor**, will be presenting "The Legend of Lily Overstreet," an erotic exploration of the lives and times of a woman artist working in the peep show business in San Francisco and Japan. Performance time is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5. For reservations, call (916) 863-3863.

Friday, January 20, is the date of the grand opening of Modesto's newest gay bar, the **Gemini**. Located at 621 H Street in downtown Modesto, the Gemini joins the **Brave Bull** and the **Mustang Club** as gay and lesbian watering places in Stanislaus County.

Things you shouldn't forget to buy tickets for: the **AIDS Foundation's Grand Hawaiian Raffle** (for only a dollar donation, you could win roundtrip airfare for two to Hawaii, plus accommodations for a week) that will take place February 19; the **Night of Music and Comedy** featuring **Romanovsky & Phillips** and **DeLaria & Strobel** on Friday, Feb. 3 (it's a fundraiser for the Campaign for Family Partner Benefits and tickets sell for \$6 each at **Lioness Books**); **La Raza del Ambiente's Valentine's Ball** on Saturday, Feb. 11 at **The Forum** (live band; tickets \$7; call **Chica** at 444-6371).

Finally, remember that **The Star** would like to hear how you and your lover met, for a feature on couples in our **Valentine's Day** issue. We'd also especially like to hear from couples who have been together for 10, 15, 20 years or more. Call editor **James Graham** or managing editor **Tim Warford** at 443-STAR, or drop a note to The Sacramento Star, P.O. Box 160300, Suite 156, Sacramento 95816, by February 1.★



Rick Van Dyke

Stiffer Penalties For Drunken Driving Now In Force, CHP Says

Effective January 1984, increased penalties are in order for habitual drunk or reckless drivers, and for motorists caught drag racing or exceeding 100 mph.

These are among the many changes in state motor vehicle laws, according to California Highway Patrol Commissioner James E. Smith.

Fourth and subsequent driving under the influence (DUI) convictions within five years will draw 180 days to one year in jail, a fine of \$390 to \$1000, and license revocation. A person thus convicted may also be required to participate in a one-year alcohol treatment program.

Minors convicted of DUI will automatically lose their license until age 18, for one year, or the period prescribed by law, whichever is longer.

Jail sentences and fines have also been stepped up for persons convicted of engaging in speed contests—better known as drag racing. Those convicted in 1984 risk jail of up to 90 days and fines from \$355 to \$500, or both. Two such convictions within five years can mean a six-month jail term, plus fines of \$500 to \$1000. Vehicles used in such races can be impounded for up to 30 days, when the person convicted is the registered owner.

Motorists cited for speeds in excess of 100 mph can be fined up to \$500 and may have their license suspended for 30 days. Two convictions within three years can result in a fine up to \$500, and the license shall be suspended or restricted for six months. Three or more convictions within five years can draw the same fine and a one-year restriction or suspension.

Two important changes concerning allowable equipment involve metal studded snow tires and tow dollies. The law concerning use of the special tires during adverse weather conditions—November 1 through April 30—previously had a sunset clause, but has now been extended indefinitely, Smith said.

Use of tow dollies—a special two-wheel device often used by motorhome owners to tow a compact car—is now allowable in California with a class 3 driver's license (effective date June, 1983).

California law has been amended to include possession of less than one ounce of marijuana while driving as a moving violation. Conviction carries a possible \$100 fine and counts against an individual's driving record.

The maximum fine for reckless driving or driving with a license suspended or revoked for a previous reckless driving conviction has been increased to \$1000. Persons convicted of

felony reckless driving who were previously found guilty of reckless driving, speed contest violations, or driving under the influence can be sentenced to county jail for 30 days to six months or to state prison or pay a fine of \$220 to \$500, or both a jail term and a fine.

Other changes in California law include: Waiving the requirement for a windshield on historical vehicles that lacked such equipment originally; offering special reflectorized 1984 commemorative Olympic license plates; a requirement that drivers hauling large quantities of radioactive materials must have successfully passed a special training course developed by CHP and DMV and must have the appropriate class license and special certificate (starting July 1984); a prohibition against parking or leaving a vehicle in a designated fire lane; a law making it legal to use four-way emergency flashers on vehicles in a funeral procession.★

Workshop Offered To Assist Women In Making Safe Space

Women! Do you have a "safe space" in which to talk about your life? Have you wondered if any other woman has ever had the same experience? How do you feel walking down a public street at night—or in daylight?

Come talk about this, and meet other interested women, at "Womanstrength: An Introduction to Consciousness-raising," led by Ann Forfreedom, on Saturday, January 14, from 2 till 4 p.m., at the First Sacramento Women's Building, 2224 J St. \$3 donation requested. All interested women are welcome.

Music, an informational paper, and woman-to-woman talk are part of this two-hour workshop (which is a benefit for Goddess Rising, a nonprofit educational and spiritual organization).

Ann Forfreedom has been a feminist activist for more than 15 years. She has participated in, and often led, consciousness-raising groups in Los Angeles, San Diego, and Sacramento. She believes that "the personal is political," and that any theories of social change must come from our direct personal life experiences, so "we must say the unsayable, speak the unspeakable, because silence destroys women."

For more information, call Ann Forfreedom at 451-9970.★

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CALENDAR

Wednesday, January 11

- * The STAR is published.
- * SAGA II Tennis Club meets. Open to all interested players. Stumble Inn, El Camino at Mission. 6:30 p.m. For information, call Kathi, 443-0568.
- * Clogging for beginners, presented by Ron Brewer and Sutter's Stompers. Call Rich, 448-2036, for information. Volcano Room, Coloma Community Center, 4623 T Street. 7-8:30 p.m.
- * Sacramento Men's Collective facilitated workshop. La Semilla. 7:30 p.m. Call 441-1959 for information.

Thursday, January 12

- * Volleyball for men and women. Sponsored by Our River City Family. \$2.50 facilities fee. Call Paul, 447-1065, for info. Sacramento City College Women's Gym. 7-11 p.m.
- * Support group for women facing major life changes. Sponsored by Women Changing Direction. First Sacramento Women's Building, 2224 J St. Child care available by prior arrangement. For info: 444-8050. 7-9 p.m.

Saturday, January 14

- * SDA Kinship Potluck. 455-8940 or 485-1694 (Ren, Regional Director) for info.

Sunday, January 15

- * Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday.
- * Bus Trip to South Lake Tahoe, sponsored by NOW Lesbian Rights Task Force. \$18, with \$14 cash refund and \$4 in food coupons. Call Marcy, 921-2835, for reservations. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
- * Worship Service. Young people's rap & social hour afterwards. River City Metropolitan Community Church, 2741 34th Street. 454-4762. 11 a.m.
- * Women In Dignity. For women in or interested in the Catholic Church. 4 p.m. 444-8939 for info.
- * Transition (Gay Latter-Day Saints) Potluck/Discussion. Call 965-5084 or write 3030-B Q Street, Suite 215, Sacramento 95816. 6-9 p.m.
- * Chrysalis Neighborhood Church worship service. 3700 Y Street. 6 p.m. 736-0113 or 453-0791 for information.
- * Sacramento Men's Collective men-only potluck. 6 p.m. Call 441-1959 for place and directions.

Monday, January 16

- * "Homosexuality and Scripture," presented by Larry Dunlap, River City Metropolitan

Community Church staff member. 2741 34th St. 7 p.m.

Tuesday, January 17

- * Capital City Squares. Coloma Community Center, 46th & T St. Call 488-2440 (days) or 486-0150 (eves). 7 p.m.
- * Raza del Ambiente, gay/lesbian Hispanic organization, meets. New members welcome. 7:30 p.m. Call Chica at 444-6371 for more info.

Wednesday, January 18

- * Deadline for The STAR.
- * Planning meeting for 1984 Lesbian/Gay Freedom Celebration. Interested people welcome. Incredible Edible. 7 p.m.
- * Clogging for beginners, presented by Ron Brewer and Sutter's Stompers. Call Rich, 448-2036, for information. Volcano Room, Coloma Community Center, 4623 T Street. 7-8:30 p.m.
- * Sacramento Men's Collective business meeting. La Semilla, 312 20th St. 7:30 p.m. Call 441-1959 for information.
- * Rap group for the "Worried Well." Led by Tom Richardson and Jackson Peyton. AIDS/KS Foundation office, 2115 J St., Suite 3. 7:30 p.m. For info, call 448-AIDS.

Thursday, January 19

- * Support group for women facing major life changes. Sponsored by Women Changing Direction. First Sacramento Women's Building, 2224 J St. child care available by prior arrangement. For info: 444-8050. 7-9 p.m.
- * Volleyball for men and women. Sponsored by Our River City Family. \$2.50 facilities fee. Call Paul, 447-1065, for info. Sacramento City College Women's Gym. 7-11 p.m.

Friday, January 20

- * River City Democratic Club meeting and potluck. Senior Citizens Center, 27th & J St. 6:30 p.m.
- * Welcoming Reception for Capitol Symposium for the Lesbian/Gay Press.

Saturday, January 21

- * Capitol Symposium for the Lesbian/Gay Press, sponsored by Assemblyman Art Agnos and Senator David Roberti, in conjunction with the Gay Press Association. State Capitol, Room 4202. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- * Sacramento Women's Rugby Team plays Davis at Davis.
- * Potluck dinner for gay and lesbian press attending the Capitol Gay Press Symposium. Sponsored by local gay press and organiza-

tions. 6 p.m.

Sunday, January 22

- * Worship Service. Young people's rap & social hour afterwards. River City Metropolitan Community Church, 2741 34th St. 454-4762. 11 a.m.
- * Chrysalis Neighborhood Church worship service. 3700 Y Street. 6 p.m. 736-0113 or 453-0791 for information.

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Lioness Books. Sacramento's women's bookstore. First Sacramento Women's Building, 2224 J Street. 442-4657.

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Phyllis A. Kaufman, LCSW. APC #LW5123. 820 24th Street. 453-1343.

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Lesbian artist/cartoonist wanted for The Star. Call 443-STAR or 452-1476.

* Seminar on Homophobia. First of four seminars led by Revs. John Moore and Marilyn Ericksen. Terrace Room, First United Methodist Church, 21st and J Streets. 5-7 p.m. For more information, call Marilyn Ericksen at 446-5025.

* Sacramento Lesbian/Gay Mental Health Professionals potluck/meeting. Call 921-2736 for information and location. 6:30 p.m.

Monday, January 23

* "Homosexuality and Scripture," presented by Larry Dunlap, River City Metropolitan Community Church staff member. 2741 34th St. 7 p.m.

Tuesday, January 24

* Capital City Squares. Coloma Community Center, 46th & T St. Call 488-2440 (days) or

See Page 8

PERSONAL & MISCELLANEOUS

Roommate Matching. Have a room to rent, apartment or house to share? Need a room, or an apartment or house to share? Call Paul, 446-1171. A service of the CSUS Lesbian/Gay People's Union.

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Katie Tavares, Photography. Portrait, commercial, celebrations, real estate. 927-6384.

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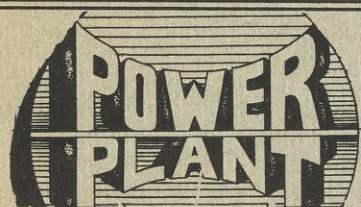
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